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Eighth meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of African Least Developed Countries

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 22-24 March 1989

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Ninth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 4-5 April 1989

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

42/177. Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

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25 February 1988

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Forty-second session
Agenda item 82 (b)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/42/821/Add.2)]

42/177. Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 40/205 of 17 December 1985, in which it decided to carry out a global review and appraisal of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries 1/ at a high level in 1990 and to determine the precise level, mandate, date and venue for such a review, as well as the preparatory process, at its forty-second session, in the light of the consultations that would take place under the auspices of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, including those of the seventh session of the Conference,

Bearing in mind the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, in which it was recommended that the Intergovernmental Group on the Least Developed Countries of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development should meet at a high level to carry out the mid-term global review of progress towards the implementtion of the Programme of Action, and consider the possibility of holding a global review at the end of the decade, which might, inter alia, take the form of a second United Nations conference on the least developed countries, 2/

Recalling also the Final Act adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its seventh session, in which the Conference recommended that a second United Nations conference on the least developed countries should be convened at a high level in 1990 to review and appraise the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action, 3/

1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 1-14 September 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.8), part one, sect. A.

2/ IBid., para. 119.

3/ TD/351, para. 153.

Taking note of Trade and Development Board decision 349 (XXXIV) of 16 October 1987 4/ on the preparations for the global review and appraisal of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action,

Expressing deep concern at the continuing deterioration in the overall socio-economic situation of the least developed countries,

1. Decides:

(a) To convene the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at a high level in 1990. The mandate of the Conference should be as follows:

(i) To review progress at the country level thus far in the decade;

(ii) To review progress in international support measures and particularly in official development assistance;

(iii) In the light of (i) and (ii) above, to consider, formulate, and adopt appropriate national and international policies and measures for accelerating the development process in the least developed countries during the 1990s in accordance with their long-term national social and economic objectives;

(b) To accept the generous offer made by the Government of France to host the Conference;

(c) To hold the Conference in September 1990;

(d) To convene one session of the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Donor Countries and Multilateral and Bilateral Financial and Technical Assistance Institutions with Representatives of the Least Developed Countries in the spring of 1989 followed by one session of the Intergovernmental Group on the Least Developed Countries, as Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, early in 1990 in order to prepare for the Conference; the duration of these two meetings will be one and a half weeks and two weeks respectively; the terms of reference of these meetings are annexed to the present resolution;

2. Decides to designate the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point for the preparations for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, and requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to designate the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to serve as Secretary-General of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and, in that capacity, to make all necessary arrangements for the holding of the Conference;

4/ To be issued in Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/42/15), vol. II.

3. Calls upon all Governments, intergovernmental and multilateral institutions and others concerned to take appropriate steps to ensure that adequate preparations are made for the Conference and to participate effectively in the two above-mentioned preparatory meetings;

4. Requests all concerned organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to submit, before the first preparatory meeting, reports containing a review of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries within their fields of competence and proposals for further action as input to the preparations for the Conference;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation and the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to ensure the full mobilization and co-ordination of all organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in the preparations for the Conference;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to obtain, as has been the past practice, extrabudgetary resources to ensure the effective participation of the representatives of the least developed countries through provision of the resources necessary to finance the travel expenses of at least two representatives from each least developed country to attend the preparatory meetings referred to in paragraph 1 above;

7. Further requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session on the state of preparations for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

96th plenary meeting
11 December 1987

ANNEX

Terms of reference

A. Meeting of Governmental Experts of Donor Countries and Multilateral and Bilateral Financial and Technical Assistance Institutions with Representatives of the Least Developed Countries

The purpose of the Meeting is to provide substantive inputs to the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to be held in 1990. Taking into account the Substantial New Programme of Action, the Meeting will be devoted to:

(a) Assessment of progress in the socio-economic situation of the least developed countries during the 1980s in the light of ongoing national and international measures;

(b) Consideration of the requirements of the least developed countries that are of particular relevance to their development and that call for strengthened efforts during the 1990s;

(c) Consideration and identification of appropriate national and international measures for accelerating the development process in the least developed countries during the 1990s;

The results of the deliberations under (a), (b) and (c) above will be reported to the Conference through the Intergovernmental Group on the Least Developed Countries of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

B. Intergovernmental Group on the Least Developed Countries of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries)

The Intergovernmental Group on the Least Developed Countries will serve as the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to be held in 1990. The Preparatory Committee will consider the follwoing matters:

(a) Substantive preparation for the Conference on the basis of the report of the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Donor Countries and Multilateral and Bilateral Financial and Technical Assistance Institutions with Representatives of the Least Developed Countries, and of all other relevant inputs;

(b) Provisional agenda for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

(c) Provisional rules of procedure of the Conference;

(d) Organizationoof work of the Conference.